



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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July 29, 1999

TO: File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *10074*

FROM: Susan White, Senior Reclamation Biologist *SMJ*

RE: Historic Resources, Slurry Pond #1, Hiawatha Coal Company, Hiawatha Complex, ACT/007/011-DO99A, File #2, Carbon County, Utah

SYNOPSIS

A Division Order (DO99A) issued in February 1999 required the Operator to include in the permit the following:

1. A map of the current Slurry Pond configuration and a map of the proposed post-mining configuration of Slurry Pond #1.
2. Copies of existing maps and/or photo's (if any exist) depicting the condition and/or configuration of Slurry Pond #1 from 1940 through 1980.
3. Current photographs of Slurry Pond #1.
4. Written history of Slurry Pond #1, documenting the coal cleaning process and use of the slurry pond and changes over time that Slurry Pond #1 has undergone.

The Operator submitted a response to Division Order 99A on July 9, 1999. The response includes a map of the current pond, photos, and a brief history of the slurry pond. A map of the post-mining configuration of Slurry Pond #1 and a description of the coal cleaning process was not provided.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

HISTORIC AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-411.

Analysis:

Appendix IV-9, Cultural and Historic Resources Mitigation, will contain specific historical information for each structure or site which is "eligible-contributing" to the historic district. The appendix will contain any mitigation required by SHPO for impacts to historic structures. Below is a listing and short discussion of each structure found in Appendix IV-9.

Slurry Impoundment No. 1 - Slurry Pond #1 is identified as "eligible/contributing". The appendix states: "This means that of itself, the slurry pond is not eligible, but is a contributing factor to the entire mining district...". This statement must be removed from the appendix because it is misleading. The entire mine site in the O'Dell and Southworth (1998) study was only evaluated as a district. No single structures were evaluated as a stand alone item. The above statement may or may not be true but no qualified Historian has evaluated Slurry Pond #1 an eligible feature.

The O'Dell and Southworth study listed Slurry Pond #1 constructed in 1940. The permittee's could not find any records showing the date of construction for this structure. As-built contours for the slurry pond in the 1970's are shown in Appendix V-1, pg. 24. The original pond followed the shape of Miller Creek. The pond was cleaned of fines in 1976 and again in 1996. No other cleaning of fines could be documented. The Division permitted a major rebuild of the pond in 1983.

The Division Order response, dated July 9, 1999, did not contain the following two items as required.

1. The history of the coal cleaning process used at the mine that involved Slurry Pond #1.
2. A map of the proposed post-mining configuration of Slurry Pond #1.

Findings:

The requirements of the Division Order have not been met. Prior to approval, the permittee must provide the following as required by Division Order 99A and:

- R645-301-411.144 - (1.) The statement that Slurry Pond 1 is not eligible to the register as a stand alone must be removed, unless another study is provided which documents this statement; (2.) A discussion of the coal cleaning process that involved Slurry Pond #1; and (3.) A map of the proposed post-mining configuration of Slurry Pond #1.